

Coalition Bulletin

A publication of the Coalition Fighting the Global War on Terrorism

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Exclusive Interview with U.S.
Rear Admiral "AJ" Jackson: "We
all Understand the International
Sense of Commitment"

Romanians Bring Water,
Comfort to Remote Iraqi Villages

Coalition Forces in Afghanistan
Keen on Korean Han-Geul Alphabet





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Cover photo: Sergeant Antonio Bisanti holds a security position as his fellow Marines Rappel to the bow of Italian frigate ITS Libeccio (F 572) during a training drill. Italian ship ITS Libeccio (F 572) supports maritime security operations (MSO) by providing security in the Central Arabian Gulf (CAG).

US Navy Photo by Photographer's Mate 1st Class Aaron Ansarov

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Our strategy can be summed up this way: As Iraqis stand up, we will stand down, and then our troops can come home to a proud and grateful nation."

George Bush,
President of United States

Editorial

This 25th Bulletin comes out at a time when the worst and the best of this Global War on Terror impact on the nations that have extended their support to this ongoing battle.

We would like this issue to extend its condolences on behalf of the Coalition to our brothers and sisters in arms from the United Kingdom for the sad loss that they have suffered.

The wanton act of destruction as witnessed in the London blasts only furthers our resolve in continuing to fight to make the world a better place to live in, free of tyranny and belligerence. The environment reminds one of the famous saying attributed to Edmund Burk, 'Evil requires only one thing to prosper, that good men remain silent.' We continue to be right and shall not remain silent.

We also take this opportunity to express are condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have lost those brave Marines in Afghanistan in the downing of their helicopter. These men were not mere casualties of battle for they remain alive in our hearts and minds as we, the Coalition, continue to push the boundaries of a more civilised world to other frontiers.

As we come to these frontiers, we witness the realities of constitution building in Iraq and the approaching elections in Afghanistan, and as we watch each corner turned and a new dawn rise, it is only fair that we, each of us, in our own capacities, can whisper into the wind that it was all worth it.

We hope that this magazine is at least 'that whisper' in the wind as it pays tribute to the many nations who are sacrificing so bravely to assist in the re-building of the countries within the CENTCOM areas of responsibilities.

Readers of this bulletin shall find how the Afghans are a step further in establishing the writ of their Government. They shall also read about the welfare projects affecting humanity in Iraq but most importantly they shall discover within these pages pictures, photographs and images of those silent contributors who are shaping the future for a better world.

It is thus that we find an unwavering resolve amongst the many nations who are part of this coalition, as they continue to weather the trials and tribulations of this Global War on Terrorism. And as we live from moment to moment, taking the good as well as the bad in stride and spirit, the Coalition continues to stand firm, shoulder-to-shoulder, building and defining a better future for other generations to come.

Tariq Khan
Brigadier-General, Pakistan
Chairman, Public Awareness Working Group



ANA Volunteers Graduate from Basic Training

By U.S. Army Spc. Benjamin T. Donde,
117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan – As Afghanistan marches toward becoming a fully democratic nation, the Afghan National Army has marched another class of volunteer soldiers to graduation from basic training. Marking the 36th class to complete the training, 591 soldiers graduated from the Kabul Military Training Center on June 12. Several countries are involved in mentoring the Afghan basic training instructors, including the United States. "We are simply here to guide and give direction. We're like quality control," said Army Lt. Col. Billy Rankin, mentor for the KMTC chief of staff. "It's their army. Some suggestions they like and some they don't like."


This class was an infantry kandak (battalion). The soldiers learned basic tasks such as patrolling, conducting an attack, combat operations and marching. Their training is not finished, however; they still have to complete a field training exercise conducted by the Canadians and will then report to their assignments.



During the graduation ceremony.

This class will bring the ANA strength to 24,710 soldiers when they finish training. "These soldiers are very keen," said British Capt. Yuba Raj, second in command of the United Kingdom Afghan National Army Training Team. "They enjoy what they're doing and they have become good at it."

Before enlistment the soldiers must be able to pass a literacy test and a physical fitness test, which consists of 37 push-ups, 40 sit-ups and a 2.4-kilometer run in less than 10.5 minutes. "It was a lot of fun and I really enjoyed the training," said ANA Cpl. Saed Osman. The 12-week training course is broken into two parts. First was a six-week basic training course, after which the soldiers were split. One hundred sixty-two soldiers attended a general noncommissioned officer course, 48 attended a combat leader course and the rest went onto Advanced Individual Training where they received instruction in certain specialties such as reconnaissance, transportation, mortars and medical training, Raj said.

These men have made the security of their nation a personal responsibility by volunteering to serve in the Afghan National Army, and it will continue to be their responsibility for their three-year term of service. 



CENTCOM's Jackson on Coalition Forces:



On photos: Rear Admiral Jackson visits Coalition troops in Iraq during July 2005.



Story by Spc. Claude Flowers

Photos by Maj. Richard McNorton
304th Mobile PAD

As the Chief of Coalition Coordination at U.S. Central Command, Rear Admiral John Adrian "AJ" Jackson has ensured that the dozens of nations participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom realized their shared goals. In July, Rear Adm. Jackson visited Coalition forces in Iraq's Multi-National Division – North East, MND – Central South, and MND – South East to view their accomplishments firsthand. He came away with renewed appreciation for the achievements of all involved. "Everyone forward understands the mission," he said. "They know they're making a difference." As he prepared to retire from the military, he reflected upon what he has observed both over the course of his three decades in the U.S. Navy, and his four years at Central Command.

What have you seen in terms of Sailors interacting with the Iraqi Coast Guard and Iraqi Navy?

"When I visited the Iraqi Navy, I was impressed with how far their training facilities had come at their base at Umm Qasr. The U.S. Navy had a presence there early on, but we've backed away due to the ability of the Iraqi Navy to stand up quickly. There's not as much U.S. Navy presence there, but the legacy of them having been

there was evident in the capabilities of the Iraqi Navy and their patrol boats."

The U.S. Navy is interacting with not only the other branches of the American military, but also other nations. How is that different from your prior experiences, and what do you see as the great successes of that teamwork?

"The one thing that strikes me is that despite the many different cultures, languages, uniforms, traditions and heritages



of the militaries and nations, when it comes down to serving your country and serving in the military, we're all the same. It is a unique fraternity, a unique brotherhood if you will, of people who understand commitment and service above themselves. No matter where you go or what country is there or who you talk to, we're really all the same, those that wear the respective uniforms of our nations. We all understand the mission. We all un-

derstand the sense of urgency to accomplish the mission. Despite all the cultural backgrounds and the variety of cultures, languages and heritages, we all understand the international sense of commitment to preserving freedom and democracies around the world. So, the more different we are, the more alike we are. I guess (that) is the thing I take away the most.

"We visited first with the Koreans in Irbil, MND North East... That was very near and dear to my heart because I have spent many good times in Korea, first with the Seventh Fleet units and then later in a short active duty period as Commander of Naval Forces, Korea... When I served in Korea, neither side would have thought that we would both be wearing desert camouflage uniforms and be in the middle of the Iraqi countryside... Knowing the professionalism of the Koreans, I was not surprised at all to see what they are doing, both in Iraq and Afghanistan...

"As I remarked to them, there was a saying in Korea about the U.S. and Korean forces that, 'We go together.' I remarked that here we are going together but in a land far different from either one of us envisioned when the saying came about. Knowing the professionalism of the Koreans, I was not surprised at all to see what they are doing, both in Iraq and Afghanistan...




By Serving, “We’re Really All the Same”



“The Brits have been with us every step of the way (bound by) our common history and heritage together over the years. I can’t think of any other nation that is so in step with us during times of crisis as the folks of the United Kingdom. They’re certainly our closest and largest contributor to the coalition, but again, I’m just amazed at the professionalism of their junior officer corps in particular that I met down in Basra. The briefings that I received from junior and midgrade officers was (indicative) of the professional training and education that



all of our military forces pursue and receive today...

“Another great example: We have a Multi-National Division (Central South) commanded by Poland, very professional soldiers. I’m reminded that the Poles have been with (the United States) since our beginning as well, going back to Revolutionary War days. There were soldiers from Poland who came to our aid to help train and assist us, and here we are helping train and assist soldiers of yet another country that we never thought we would be doing a mission together with.” 




“Move America Forward” Reporters Visit U.S. Central Command HQ in Tampa



In a special event called “Voices of the Soldiers,” broadcast journalists visited USCENTCOM and troops stationed at MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida. Over 600 Americans and members of the Coalition attended the BBQ event, hosted by the “Move America Forward” organization in appreciation of the troops supporting the Global War on Terror.

“Move America Forward” is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization committed to supporting the brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces and America’s efforts to defeat terrorism.

With this occasion CENTCOM officials and the representatives of Pakistan, Romania, Azerbaijan, Italy, Denmark and Canada have been interviewed by radio reporters Mark Williams (KFBK 1530 – Sacramento), Brad Maaske (KMJ 580 – Fresno, CA), Martha Zoller (WDUN 550 – Atlanta), Michael Graham (WMAL 630 – Washington DC), and Buzz Patterson (Right Talk Radio Network).

All live and pre-taped interviews have been broadcasted by “Move America Forward” radio stations, and have reached major metropolitan areas like New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, Atlanta, Washington D.C., and Boston. “Move America Forward”, whose audience is over 20 million per day, has stressed the positive impact of the U.S. service members focusing on reconstruction, humanitarian and medical assistance in Iraq and Kuwait. 





The Italian Roads to Peacekeeping in Iraq Go t



**Lt. Col. Mario Luppa –
Tampa,
Lt. Col. Fabio Mattiassi –
An Nasiriyha**

In the Dhi Qar Province of Iraq, the Italian CIMIC (Civil Military Cooperation) has carried out many projects and there many others that the people are looking forward to seeing completed in the near future. The programme is a twenty million dollar effort which involves a complex chain of studies and works that are initiated by requests from villages' Sheiks.

These requests are processed through the Italian Joint Task Force CIMIC Cell and are given to the best local factories/firms, through an appropriate tender, for their accomplishment. The involvement of local factories/firms starts a process of autonomous development of the region, which is fundamental for people coming out from war



On photos: Italian Forces build regional stability in Dhi Qar province in South Eastern Iraq.

and destruction who want to progress toward civil, political and economic stability. The first 13 million dollars from the Commanders Emergency Response Program (CERP) have been spent on construction and improvement of the roading network, reconstruction of entire hospital wings, and the purchase of personal computers and furniture for schools.

This is way in which the money, offered by the International Community, was made available for reconstruction and immediate help projects.

Since the beginning of the Italian Mission in Iraq, the Italian Joint Task Force has financed 516 projects, 50 of which have been completed with an additional four million euro made

available by the Italian Government. The Italians are now completing approximately 60 more projects for an additional 3.5 million euro.

Even with this sort of funding these projects are not enough by themselves. The will and dedication of the CIMIC operators are the key-stones to ensuring sympathy

o Camp Mittica, Dhi Qar Province



and real cooperation with the Iraqi people: success lies in the human links between foreign forces and Iraqis.

How is a humanitarian process carried out? There are two main roads that can be followed: one is going directly to Camp Mittica (ITA JTF Main Camp), the other is getting in contact with the TF Units daily patrolling the Dhi Qar province, alias the ITA JTF AOR.

In the first case a village headman, a Mayor or a notable introduces himself at the entrance of the camp. He is then introduced to a TF 'Project Officer' who goes to the specific location and assesses if the work is worthwhile and feasible.

When the evaluation is completed, a priority and a number is given to the project and it is added to a list of tasks. When the project comes up for financing, a tender is called among local factories/firms and the work is fi-

nally assigned to the enterprise that guarantees the best cost/benefit ratio.

During the daily visits to villages in Dhi Qar province (Humanitarian / Health assistance) some requests are forwarded to Coalition Forces by the local populace. All requests are thoroughly evaluated and each of them may herald the start of a new project and, consequently, of a new task.

Essential for the success of each project is the sharing of work and responsibility with the immediate population. The involvement of local people in these works is the first step to offering a real possibility of growth to the area economy.

To build or to improve already existing services, leaving to locals only the benefit of just using them, would

inevitably deny them the chance of becoming the main players in their own future.


The need for security while carrying out any project is important. And again this is still the promise we, the Italians, are honouring in Iraq. We are ensuring security with our soldiers and at the same time we are training Iraqi Police and Armed Forces. These are the personnel that will

guard and defend their own country when we are gone. The Iraqi Government needs efficient security structures.

The ITA JTF is taking care of the Army, while the "Carabinieri" (MSU) look after the Iraqi Police Service, teaching them how to organize their work in the same way the "Carabinieri" do in Italy.

On 19 May 2005, a ceremony took place in An Nasiriyha with Italian soldiers and the highest provincial authorities. Several diplomas were given to Iraqi soldiers and policemen for their participation and personal achievement in the MOUT (Military Operation in Urban Terrain) course.

They were taught the techniques and tactics of modern warfare and demonstrated their importance for the future of Iraq. They are cooperating and fully involved in the control of their own territory.

The Italian recipe for Civil Military Cooperation is an additional confirmation that the 'Italian Way to Peace – Keeping Operations' is a winning one. 





Afghan National Police Is Taught Riot Control

**Story and photo by
Spc. Jason Krawczyk,
20th PA Detachment**

JALALABAD PRT, Afghanistan – The Afghan National Police completed the first riot control class taught by members of the Jalalabad Provincial Reconstruction Team May 23.

With their new gear, it was time for the QRF to learn what to do with it. “The first morning we went over confronting the rioters and moving them where you want them,” said Army Spc. Richard Buck, a team instructor with 164th. After lunch, they applied their newly acquired skills to a prac-




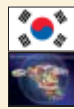
Afghan National Police acting as rioters try to break through a riot line that the ANP's quick reaction force deployed during training.

The 164th Military Police Company's police tactical advisor team taught the ANP to deal with different riot situations that arise during civil unrest. “The two-day class saw a big improvement in the ANP's riot control skills,” said Army Sgt. Joseph Mirander, the 164th MP Co.'s PTAT non-commissioned officer in charge. “They're taught a little bit on riot control when they go through the police academy, but nothing this in-depth.”

The Jalalabad PRT also provided some new equipment to the police. “The ANP's (quick reaction force) got riot shields and helmets,” said Mirander.

tical exercise. Other police played the role of rioters and the QRF had to subdue them. “It took some time, but they got the hang of it,” said Army Pfc. Nicholas Hogan, a PTAT course instructor. Day two started out with more hands-on training to reinforce the skills the QRF learned the day before. After the review, it was time to get into more difficult riot control scenarios.

“This class has given us the tools and training to deal with riots on our own and in a civil manner,” said Mer Mohammad, a QRF team member. While this course had 20 police officers, more than a hundred are waiting to take the training class. 



Korean “Fever” Spreads in Bagram Airfield

**Story and photo by
Capt. (P) Sung-Hun Park,
Republic of Korea Army
100th Engineer Group PAO**

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – In the area where the Republic of Korea's Army support group for “Operation Enduring Freedom” is located, Coalition forces are eager to learn the Korean alphabet “Han-Geul.”

On June 9, according to Republic of Korea Joint Chief of Staff Headquarters, Dasan/Dong-ui Unit opened a Korean language Class at the Dasan Education Centre at Bagram Airfield, where eighteen different countries' armed forces are deployed.

They posted advertisements of the class on the bulletin boards at the Base. After three days twenty people, the class limitation, had applied to attend.

As part of his duty he has contact with other Coalition forces.

Coalition soldiers often ask Captain Lee, “to teach them a few Korean words.” This gave him an inspiration to have this “Korean Class.”

Now, it is very common in Bagram Air Field for many Coalition soldiers to say “An-neong-ha-se-yo” (“How are you?”) to greet each other.

Captain Mark Ogles of the U.S. Army's Headquarters & Headquarters Troop, 2nd Squad/6th Cavalry said, “After finishing deployment in Afghanistan, I guess that I will be deployed in Korea and I think that learning Han-Geul will help me to get closer to Korean people.”

Dasan/Dong-ui Unit's first rotations are deployed in




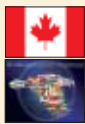
R.O.K. Army 100th Engineer Group LNO Capt. Young-Seok Lee explains the basics of “Han-Geul” grammar to his students during the Korean language class for Coalition members.

Now there are 90 minute basic Korean lessons every Tuesday and Friday.

This “Han-Geul Fever” began with the efforts of Captain Young-Suk Lee (34, ROTC#32 class) the liaison officer in Dasan Unit.

Afghanistan in February of 2003 and February of 2002.

At present, the 5th Dasan Unit rotation and 7th Dong-ui Unit rotation are accomplishing various engineer and medical support missions with 204 personnel. 



HMCS Winnipeg Continues Canada's Maritime Contribution to OEF



Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) Winnipeg.

Lt. Catherine Sands, Shipborne Air Controller / Unit Information Officer

In Spring 2005, Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) Winnipeg departed Victoria, British Columbia for Operation Altair. Operation Altair is the present Canadian Forces maritime contribution to Operation Enduring Freedom. HMCS Toronto, another Halifax-class patrol frigate, was the first ship to sail under Operation Altair.

She deployed from January to July 2004, sailing with the USS George Washington Carrier Strike Group. HMCS Winnipeg is the second ship to deploy for Op Altair. This will be her third deployment to the Persian Gulf (Arabian Gulf) region in four years.

From March to September 2001, she was integrated into the USS Constellation Carrier Battle Group, and from September 2002 to May 2003, on Operation Apollo, she sailed with the U.S.-led Coalition fleet, engaged in force protection and maritime interdiction operations. During the latter deployment, Winnipeg hailed nearly 1,900 ships, of which 136 were boarded for closer inspection.

HMCS Winnipeg was the ninth of twelve Canadian Patrol Frigates (CPFs) to be built by Canada during the late '80s and early '90s. She has a crew of 240 sailors and



Stinger 36 hoisting a member of the boarding party.

airmen, including officers. Designed to fulfill multiple warfare roles, Winnipeg is fitted with weaponry for Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW) and Anti-Air Warfare (AAW).

The design combines a versatile weapons and sensor package with a state-of-the-


art damage and machinery control system, making the class one of the most advanced warship designs in the world. The ship is complemented with an Air Detachment flying the CH-124A Sea King helicopter, an all weather multi-purpose platform capable of anti-submarine warfare, surface surveillance, search and rescue, and fleet support.

The detachment, consisting of four pilots, two tactical navigators, two electronic sensor operators, and eleven technicians, is a valuable asset that extends the ship's sensor and combat capability over the horizon.

On 1 June, HMCS Winnipeg reported for duty with Task Force 150 of the Coalition Naval Forces assigned to the Global Campaign Against Terrorism. Her primary mission during this deployment will be to support the Campaign Against Terrorism within the Area of Responsibility (AOR), as directed by the Combined Forces Maritime Component Commander (CFMCC).

Throughout the deployment she will conduct surveillance patrols and maritime interdiction operations in order to control sea-based activity in the region.

The ship will contribute to the Coalition campaign in the region, working throughout the AOR. In the current environment this involves building a positive relationship with the legitimate mariners in the region while doing focused operations against those using the high seas routes for terrorist activity or support to such activity.

The ship's Commanding Officer, Commander Kevin Greenwood, states, "There is a good spirit of cooperation amongst the twelve countries currently contributing maritime forces. There is a real job to be done here still and my team is enjoying being part of it". Winnipeg departs the CENTCOM AOR in late August. 



New Civil Military Projects Inaugurated by Romanian Soldiers Serving in Iraq



Calugareni soldiers and local authorities of Al Fuhud walking on the rehabilitated road.

**Story and photos
by Capt Carol Florea,
Romanian 2nd Infantry
Battalion "Călugăreni" PIO**

CAMP MITTICA, Iraq – On 18th of June, two new CIMIC (civil-military cooperation) projects were inaugurated by the soldiers of the Romanian 2nd Infantry Battalion "Călugăreni" in the town of Al Fufud (about 30,000 inhabitants) located 60 kilometers (40 miles) from An Nasiriyah, with financial support provided by the Multinational Force (MNF).

The first project, consisting of a water distribution network, will bring the most needed thing here – water – to the houses of 5,000 Iraqis.

The second, rehabilitation of a 1,5-kilometer road, will connect tens of houses in a swamp area located at the outskirts of the town with the main road.

The new water distribution network and road, which 60 Iraqis worked on for 6 weeks, were the first CIMIC projects inaugurated by 2nd Infantry Battalion "Călugăreni" in Al Fufud. USD 150,000 in funding was provided by MNF.

Invited by Sheikh Nazar Mannar, the community spiritual leader, in the town's

guest house, Romanian soldiers and Iraqi authorities discussed local community necessities, mainly concerning water distribution plants, school construction, sewage systems and rehabilitation of some roads located in swampy areas.

"We are very satisfied by this first CIMIC projects inaugurated in our town," said Sheikh Nazar.

"As you can see, we live in a very poor area that is also swampy, and we need to have the roads rehabilitated and to built new water purification plants.

"We will sup-

port the Romanian soldiers both in the evaluation process and also during the construction phase."

Currently, with the funds provided by MNF, the Romanian 2nd Infantry Battalion "Călugăreni" finalized and inaugurated 7 CIMIC projects that worth over USD 820,000.

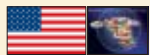
The activities from civil-military cooperation will continue during the entire term of the "Călugăreni" in Iraq, simultaneous with patrolling missions to ensure the freedom of action for the Multinational Force's convoys, providing security for the infrastructure facilities such as oil pipelines and power supply lines and the very important task of training the personnel of Iraqi Army, for which the Romanian and Italian instructors will soon finish the third course. ^{UB}



Calugareni soldiers and the local authorities of Al Fuhud discussing about community needs in the guest's house.



Priest Nicolae Postolea blesses Calugareni flag on National Flag Day.



Unit Offers Many Tools to Handle Afghan Emergencies, Air Force Brings Help from Above



(Up) Senior Airman Chris Piercecchi adjusts his survival vest in preparation for a rescue mission as Senior Master Sgt. Jim Sanchez looks on. Master Sgt. Sanchez and Piercecchi are pararescue jumpers attached to the 451st Air Expeditionary Group and deployed from the 305th Rescue Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

(Right) Tech. Sgt. Jason Burger, a flight engineer of the 451st Air Expeditionary Group, checks out the weapons systems on a HH-60G Pave Hawk in preparation of a night mission.



nance disposal, we're not your typical unit by any means."

The IED caused heavy damage to a Humvee in the column. Traveling with the convoy were tactical air controllers Staff Sgt. Mitchell Yang and Airman 1st Class Kenneth Farrar, who were able to quickly call in air coverage to the site.

"They were able to get aircraft to the scene and help with security for ground forces and rescue personnel," said Lt. Col. Wayne Canipe, commander of the tactical air control unit at Kandahar Airfield. "They did their jobs very well."

While EOD teams scoured the area for secondary devices and investigated the explosion, an Army medical evacuation team transported two wounded soldiers back to Kandahar Airfield for emergency treatment. An Air Force emergency rescue squadron was also sent up as a backup, which was necessary due to high winds and poor visibility in the area.

Story by Air Force Capt. Mark Gibson, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing PA, Photos by Air Force Col. Eric Vollmecke

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – On a normal day, operations at the 451st Air Expeditionary Group here can be typical of any deployed unit.

Civil engineering Airmen work tirelessly to keep the long-neglected runway open so thousands of Army troops can remain supplied. Aerial port personnel load and unload a seemingly endless stream of incoming aircraft carrying people and equipment.

Services squadron members schedule activities to entertain those deployed to this far-flung location. Sometimes, however, an event can occur that highlights the uniqueness of the 451st and the Air-


men assigned to it.

A perfect example occurred May 22, when an improvised explosive device believed to have been set by pro-Taliban forces struck an Army convoy traveling north of Kandahar.

The incident showed how all the parts in such an expeditionary unit work together – and how the Air Force is supporting the war fighters on the ground in southern Afghanistan.

"The Air Force is here as the senior airport authority, but we're also here to provide critical elements to support the Army's offensive operations in southern Afghanistan," said Col. Eric W. Vollmecke, commander of the 451st AEG and a Guardsman deployed from the West Virginia Air National Guard. "With (tactical air control personnel), air evacuation, pararescue and explosive ord-

One soldier later died as a result of his wounds, with the second receiving life-saving treatment at Kandahar. The Army "brought him in here, stabilized him and performed surgery," said Capt. Steve Theohares, a flight care coordinator with the 451st Air Evacuation Squadron deployed from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. "That's when we got involved. We took over his care and got him to Landstuhl, Germany, for follow-up treatment."

"We were fortunate that a C-17 was in mid-air on a routine mission, and he got here in about five minutes," he said. "(The Soldier) received outstanding care in the field, there's no doubt," Theohares said. "Otherwise, he wouldn't have made it." The cooperation between the Army and Air Force and the internal cohesion within the 451st were the difference between life and death, Vollmecke believes. 



A Spearhead of the German Army



Story by German Liaison Team,
CCC, USCENCOM

The Airmobile Division (DLO) was established on July 1st, 2002 in Veitshoechheim, near Wuerzburg, Germany. It reached operational capability soon after this date, and now the DLO is the provider of air mobility for Army and other branches of the German Forces.

MISSION SPECTRUM

The mission of the Airmobile Division is to provide a divisional High-Readiness Headquarters for planning and conducting operations as a German contribution to possible NATO Crisis Management Operations, and for tasks assigned by the European Union (so-called "Petersberg-Operations"). This means that the headquarters and forces of the DLO have to be airmobile and/or ready for rapid sealift to act also as Initial-Entry Forces to pave the way and safeguard follow on forces.

Meanwhile, parts of the forces assigned to the DLO are now permanently engaged in missions abroad, i.e. in Kosovo, and Afghanistan Operations. Beyond this, the Division presently contributes a full squadron of transport helicopters to the NRF 4 contingent.

The division headquarters also acts as a headquarters for exercises and special missions during NATO and EU operations. To meet these new challenges, the division has established a concentrated basis of high training for new personnel

as a main peacetime effort. In a series of exercises, very often in a multinational environment, all DLO personnel have to train their knowledge of, and capabilities in these new areas. Close cooperation with similar task units, especially the 11th Air Manoeuvre Brigade of the Netherlands, proved to

to support any operation with maximum efficiency. The latest good example of these challenges was the sudden demand for helicopter support to an ISAF/PRT Kunduz mission. With only a minimum time of preparation, German Air Mobile Components were successfully involved in a rescue mission in a very remote and hazardous environment in Afghanistan. Key to the success were the high degree of training status, high readiness and discipline, the vital undelayed flow of information and last but not least, good communications.

HEADQUARTERS & UNITS

Following the guidelines for the ongoing transformation process of the German Army, the DLO will have a change in



The most modern helicopters of the German Armed Forces: TIGER attack helicopter and the new multi purpose NH-90.



The Mobile Wing Operations Center of the German Armed Forces.



be very beneficial. Besides the ability to provide numerous Army Aviation Contingents for operations in geo-

graphically separated areas of operation simultaneously, the Airmobile Division permanently keeps an Army Aviation Standby Force ready at all times for possible Evacuation Operations.

Operational experiences in different theatres clearly show that command and control is a key issue for all types of operations with high intensity pace. Ensuring a continuous flow of information is paramount

structure. However, the professionalism will remain at a very high level. Thanks to new equipment, new helicopters as well as CCIS and even increased up to date training possibilities, the DLO will remain one of the most modern German Army Divisions.

Because of its very broad mission spectrum, the DLO is not exclusively an Army Aviation Division, but a cross-sectional major unit of the whole German Army, containing Army Aviation as well as other special force multipliers.

With the upcoming introduction of the highly capable *Tiger* attack helicopter and the new NH-90 multi purpose helicopter, plus the CH-53 as the workhorse of current air transport, the German Army will have adequate firepower and high air mobility capabilities to fulfil the most demanding tasks in any future theatre of operation.